

2018-2019

NEW ZEALAND

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FIRST LIGHT TRAVEL

Your South Pacific Travel Specialists



Spectacular Bay of Islands

4 DAYS | AUCKLAND RETURN | ZB4

**Cruise in Bay of Islands • See Grand Cathedral Cave
Dolphin & whale spotting • The 'Hole in the Rock'
Visit the Waitangi Treaty Reserve**

As this Short Break departs at 6.45am, accommodation will need to be pre-booked for the previous night.

Day 1: Auckland – Bay of Islands

Depart Auckland by coach for the Bay of Islands. On arrival in Paihia visit the historic Waitangi Treaty Reserve. You'll have time on your own to learn about New Zealand's early Māori and European history and take in highlights such as the Māori War Canoe (Waka) and Meeting House (Marae). Then board the Dolphin Seeker, a purpose-built catamaran, and meet your experienced local skipper for a cruise through the beautiful clear waters. Keep a look out for common and bottlenose dolphins, whales and other marine life as you get up close to the action. Enjoy the views as you cruise past the Cape Brett Lighthouse, before arriving at the majestic 'Hole in the Rock'. You'll be holding your breath as the skipper navigates through the narrow space. Take in the unique sights of Grand Cathedral Cave before heading back into the inner islands of the Bay. Hotel: Copthorne Resort, Garden View (R) or Water View (S), Bay of Islands, 2 nights. D

Day 2: Bay of Islands Free Time

Today is a free day for you to experience the beauty of the

Bay of Islands. Perhaps head back out on to the water and go on a dolphin-watching cruise, or take a coach trip up to Cape Reinga, the very top of New Zealand, via idyllic Ninety Mile Beach. Experience a day of sailing aboard a historic tall ship, or enjoy wine tasting around Kerikeri. Tonight you're free to dine as you wish. You may want to experience a 'Kiwi tradition' – fish and chips on the beach, or glide down the Waitangi River on board the Ratanui for a dinner cruise (all own expense). B

Day 3: Bay of Islands – Auckland

This morning why not spend time in a local café or perhaps take a ferry to Russell, the first capital of New Zealand. This afternoon enjoy a relaxing journey back to Auckland, through lush farmland scenery and past stunning coastal vistas, over the Harbour Bridge into the city. Hotel: Scenic Hotel (R) or The Cordis (S), Auckland. B

Day 4: Farewell from Auckland

Your short break concludes this morning after breakfast. You'll be transferred to Auckland Airport to connect with your onward flight (flights anytime). B

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